



Vision Cashiers- June progress report

1 message

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VISION CASHIERS

“Improving Tomorrow...Today”

June 2019 update

Dear Vision Cashiers friend,

The season has started and people are excited to be back. Our task forces have been busy and we expect some very visible accomplishments this year. We have identified a needed initiative to seek grants to pay for some of our objectives. Harriet Karro has taken on the task to organize and submit grant requests from multiple donor organizations. (Thank you, Harriet!)

Again, a reminder, Vision Cashiers is a public charity and all our initiatives operate under it. All engaged leaders are covered under our insurance for any initiative activity.

Here is a brief summary of what is happening with each initiative now:

- **Education-** Dr. Joy Clark, leader- 36 participants

- The task force will continue to create flags and banners for display at the crossroads, teach personal economics through Junior Achievement at Blue Ridge Early College, support the Financial Aid Information dinner for Blue Ridge, and hold the annual Middle School Career Conference again next April. Please remember to sign up again (required) at Ingles for the Tools for Schools program.

- **Health/Wellness-** Dr. Walter Clark, leader- now 66 participants (40 are physicians)

- We have created multiple work clusters within this large group and some are already working:

- Blue Zones- scheduled a presentation of it on June 10th in Highlands
 - Physician and nurse recruiting- group actively working to recruit doctors for the Cashiers clinic. If you know of a candidate please email us.
 - Foundation Health Park- the group is working to build a case for support by HCA. Once committed, they would be the “anchor tenant” in the park. Other interested tenants have shown significant interest.
 - Emergency medicine- working to create a program to deal with all
 - HCA-meeting set for July 15th with senior execs
 - Potential services:
 - Tel-A-Doc- proposal being made to provide this immediate medical service to the entire region at minimal cost
 - Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation- offering assistance in identifying needs
 - Indigent Care
 - Elder care

- **Community Housing-** John Franklin, leader assisted by Linda Benge & Turner Inscoe- 29 participants

- Committed to build duplexes for full time workers (Teachers, Nurses, Managers)
 - Committed to acquire a location in Glenville and submitting an offer to purchase
 - 33 acres would enable a development of about 100 units
 - Securing commitments from employers to guarantee leases and expenses.
 - Capital- identifying interested investors who want to assist and earn an attractive return.

- **Workforce Development-** Susan San Souci leader, 17 participants

- Alliance with Western Carolina- They met with the university and it is excited to launch classes for Hospitality, Construction and Interior Design in time for the fall semester. Could include classes on Parks & Recreation Management as well as Sports Management

- Alliance with the Chamber of Commerce and 6 area high schools as far as Franklin.- create education sessions informing the students of the work opportunities in Cashiers
- **Technology-** Craig Moore, leader, Jim Allen & Danny Bottoms assisting- 17 participants
 - Broadband- Getting closer to creating terms where a major provider will build fiber-to-the-home service.
 - Applying for grants to pay for the creation of a wifi system in the commercial district of Cashiers.
- **Natural Resources-** Maggie Carton, leader, 32 participants
 - Focusing on taking over the “Ramble”, upgrading and expanding it, Applying for a grant to perform the initial work
 - Working in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary and other organizations to perform a monthly cleanup of the main highways of Cashiers
 - Working with property owners and the county to create a greenway/pathway plan for Cashiers.
- **Crime Prevention-** Jim Sacha, leader, 13 participants
 - Sent the fourth of 5 key messages to the community. Watch for the 5th shortly. It will include the first four.
- **Pedestrian Safety** - Don Jehle- 36 participants
 - Focused on the first phase of sidewalks (Frank Allen, 64 & 107). Survey and engineering is complete. County agreed to assume liability and maintenance.
 - Now contacting the owners to convince them to pay
 - Once complete, stage 2 (crossroads on 107 to Slabtown Road to 64) will commence
 - Once completed, stage 3 (crossroads to Cornucopia on 107) will commence

If you know of others who would be interested in engaging in any of these initiatives please have them contact me.

A reminder- this is about doing things, not just talking about it. We look forward to 2019 and to showing some very concrete results.

Sincerely,

Paul

For Vision Cashiers

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